

PATENT  
Atty. Dkt. No. AMAT/5262/CMP/CMP/RKK

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Tsai et al.

Serial No.: 09/961,134

Confirmation No.: 4110

Filed: September 21, 2001

For: Method and apparatus  
for forming metal layers

Group Art Unit: 1753

Examiner: Wong, Edna

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Dear Sir:**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on  
12/23, 2003 with the United States Postal Service as  
First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner  
for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

12/23/03 B. Todd Patterson  
Date Signature

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 28, 2003**

In response to the Office Action dated August 28, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on December 28, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/5262/BTP, the fee of \$606.00 for additional claims. If there are any additional fees required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/5262/BTP, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper. **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper. **Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.